AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for obtaining information from a relational database, comprising the steps of:

formulating a text query to retrieve data from the relational database,

where a first portion of the text query specifies the data to be retrieved

and a second portion of the text query specifies a format for graphing the data;

transmitting the text query to the relational database;

causing data to be returned from the relational database in accordance with the text query; and

presenting the data in accordance with said format.

2. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the first portion of the text query and the second portion of the text query are formulated in a structured query language (SQL).

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the data is returned as a binary image and presented as a graph.

4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein an image representation of data in ASCII format is returned from the <u>relational</u> database and presented as a graph.

5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of causing the data to be returned further comprises interpreting the <u>text</u> query in accordance with a structured query language (SQL) having keywords and syntax for specifying said format.

6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein the graphical image is one of a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot, and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the <u>text</u> query.

7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of causing the data to be returned further comprises:

       interpreting the first portion of the <u>text</u> query to cause the data to be retrieved;

       creating a dataset for the data;

       incorporating the data into the dataset; and

       constructing a graphical image using the data, in accordance with said format.

8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein said interpreting step further comprises parsing the <u>text</u> query so that the first portion of the <u>text</u> query and the second portion of the <u>text</u> query are interpreted separately.

9. (Currently amended) A method for querying a <u>relational</u> database, comprising the steps of:

specifying the data to be returned from the <u>relational</u> database in a first portion of a <u>text</u>

query; and

specifying a format for graphing the data in a second portion of the <u>text</u> query,

the data thereby being returned as a graphical image in accordance with said format.

10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9, wherein the first portion of the <u>text</u>

query and the second portion of the <u>text</u> query are in a structured query language (SQL).

11. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the graphical image is a binary image.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the graphical image is a representation of

the data in ASCII format.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the SQL includes keywords and syntax

for specifying said format.

14. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 13, wherein the graphical image is one of

a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot,

and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the <u>text</u> query.

15. (Currently amended) A system for retrieving and presenting data from a <u>relational</u> database,

comprising:

the <u>relational</u> database;

an input device for entering a database <u>text</u> query;

a device for interpreting the <u>text</u> query, where said device is effective to format the data

for presentation in graphical form; and

an output device for presenting the data as a graphical image.

16. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 15, wherein the <u>text</u> query is formulated in

a structured query language (SQL).

17. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 15, wherein the <u>text</u> query includes a first

portion specifying the data to be retrieved and a second portion specifying said graphical form,

and said device for interpreting the <u>text</u> query has an interpreter for interpreting both the first

portion and the second portion of the <u>text</u> query.

18. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 15, wherein the <u>text</u> query includes a first

portion specifying the data to be retrieved and a second portion specifying said graphical form,

and said device for interpreting the <u>text</u> query has a first interpreter for interpreting the first

portion of the <u>text</u> query and a second interpreter for interpreting the second portion of the <u>text</u>

query.

19. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 18, wherein the first interpreter is effective

to cause return of the data from the <u>relational</u> database in accordance with the first portion of the

<u>text</u> query, and the second interpreter is effective to

parse the <u>text</u> query into the first portion and the second portion;

create a dataset for the data;

incorporate the data into the dataset; and

construct the graphical image using the data, in accordance with the second portion of the text query.

20. (Original) A system according to claim 15, wherein the graphical image is a binary image.

21. (Original) A system according to claim 15, wherein the graphical image is a representation of the data in ASCII format.

22. (Original) A system according to claim 16, wherein the SQL includes keywords and syntax for specifying said graphical form.

23. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 15, wherein the graphical image is one of a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot, and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the text query.

24. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium having stored therein instructions for performing a method, the method comprising the steps of:

querying a relational database to retrieve data therefrom in accordance with a text query from a user,

where a first portion of the text query specifies the data to be retrieved

and a second portion of the text query specifies a format for graphing the data;

transmitting the <u>text</u> query to the <u>relational</u> database;

causing the data to be returned from the <u>relational</u> database in accordance with the query;

and

presenting the data in accordance with said format.

25. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 24, wherein in said method the first portion of the <u>text</u> query and the second portion of the <u>text</u> query are formulated in a structured query language (SQL).

26. (Original) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 24, wherein in said method the data is returned as a binary image and presented as a graph.

27. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 24, wherein in said method an image representation of data in ASCII format is returned from the <u>relational</u> database and presented as a graph.

28. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 24, wherein in said method said step of causing the data to be returned further comprises interpreting the <u>text</u> query in accordance with a structured query language (SQL) having keywords and syntax for specifying said format.

29. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 28, wherein in said method the graphical image is one of a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart,

a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot, and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the

second portion of the <u>text</u> query.

30. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium according to claim 24, wherein in

said method said step of causing the data to be returned further comprises:

interpreting the first portion of the <u>text</u> query to cause the data to be retrieved;

creating a dataset for the data;

incorporating the data into the dataset; and

constructing a graphical image using the data, in accordance with said format.

31. (Currently amended) A computer program product for performing a method, the method

comprising the steps of:

querying a <u>relational</u> database to retrieve data therefrom in accordance with a <u>text</u> query

from a user,

where a first portion of the <u>text</u> query specifies the data to be retrieved

and a second portion of the <u>text</u> query specifies a format for graphing the data;

transmitting the <u>text</u> query to the <u>relational</u> database;

causing the data to be returned from the <u>relational</u> database in accordance with the <u>text</u>

query; and

presenting the data in accordance with said format.

32. (Currently amended) A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein in said method the first portion of the <u>text</u> query and the second portion of the <u>text</u> query are formulated in a structured query language (SQL).

33. (Original) A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein in said method the data is returned as a binary image and presented as a graph.

34. (Currently amended) A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein in said method an image representation of data in ASCII format is returned from the <u>relational</u> database and presented as a graph.

35. (Currently amended) A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein in said method said step of causing the data to be returned further comprises interpreting the <u>text</u> query in accordance with a structured query language (SQL) having keywords and syntax for specifying said format.

36. (Currently amended) A computer program product according to claim 35, wherein in said method the graphical image is one of a line graph, a horizontal bar chart, a vertical bar chart, a pie chart, a scatter plot, a contour plot, and a wafer map, in accordance with a keyword in the second portion of the <u>text</u> query.

37. (Currently amended) A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein in said method said step of causing the data to be returned further comprises:

interpreting the first portion of the text query to cause the data to be retrieved;

creating a dataset for the data;

incorporating the data into the dataset; and

constructing a graphical image using the data, in accordance with said format.

38. (Currently amended) In a structured query language (SQL) for querying a relational database to cause specified data to be returned therefrom, the improvement comprising:

keywords for specifying a format for graphing the returned data; and

syntax for recognizing said keywords, thereby causing the data to be presented as a graph according to said format.

39. (Currently amended) In a computer program product for interpreting a structured query language (SQL), the SQL used to formulate a text query to a relational database to cause data to be returned therefrom, the improvement comprising:

first computer program code for recognizing keywords for specifying a format for graphing the data; and

second computer program code for causing the data to be presented as a graph according to said format.

40. (Currently amended) In a computer program product according to claim 39, the improvement further comprising first computer program code including code for recognizing a delimiter keyword separating SQL statements in a first portion of the text query specifying the data from

SQL statements in a second portion of the <u>text</u> query specifying said format.